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(54) SYSTEM AND METHOD FOR LOCALIZING MEDICAL INSTRUMENTS DURING CARDIOVASCULAR MEDICAL PROCEDURES

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See application file for complete search history.

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(57) ABSTRACT

A system and method for localizing medical instruments during cardiovascular medical procedures is described. One embodiment comprises an electromagnetic field generator; an antenna reference instrument adapted to be introduced into the heart of a subject and including at least one electromagnetic sensor and at least one electrode; at least one roving instrument adapted to be introduced into the thorax cavity of the subject and including at least one electrode; and a control unit configured to determine position coordinates of the antenna reference instrument based on an electromagnetic signal from the electromagnetic field generator sensed by the electromagnetic sensor, measure an electrical-potential difference between the electrode of the antenna reference instrument and the electrode of the roving instrument, and calibrate the measured electrical-potential difference using the determined position coordinates of the antenna reference instrument to determine position coordinates of the roving instrument.

15 Claims, 8 Drawing Sheets

